



Debra L. Holte
861 South Steele Street
Denver, CO 80209
Patent Applicant
Application Number 10/822,481

4 March 2005

Honorable Son T. Nguyen,

May I commend the United States Patent Office and the examiners for their commitment of the accessibility of patents to "ordinary" people. The USPTO has gone to great lengths to provide useful and complete information to those who wish to file a patent by themselves. It allows people, regardless of their monetary situation or ability to afford an attorney, the ability to file for a patent. Thank you.

I have used the USPTO website extensively. The website and the USPTO email alerts provide helpful and constructive information to those like me who wish to file a patent. Mr. Nguyen, I have taken great pains to attempt to file this application properly, and spend your time wisely, but I need your direction on one item.

I have come to realize that I might improve the wording of my claims. Thank you, by the way, for correcting my references to independent claim 19 (not 18). In studying the corrections for my drawings, I realized that I did not use consistent language. Going back to the USPTO website and further studying properly drafting claims, I would like to add an additional independent claim, which I believe is more concisely and properly worded by USPTO standards.

USPTO allows three independent claims without further fees. My application had two independent fees, so a third may be added without additional fees. I am not sure the proper procedure to do this. In searching the website, I could not find information on the proper procedure to add an independent claim. As a result, I am including my original form PTO/SB/07 along with new copy of the form which reflects the changes.

I look to you for direction. I will gladly and promptly fill out any additional forms which you deem to be necessary.

One final comment, throughout my amendment, I have been conscious of not continuing a sentence or paragraph onto the next page. Although it makes the document longer, I believe it is easier for the reader to read (understanding that you must read numerous of these each day).

Thank you for your consideration,



Debra L. Holte

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number.

| MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM FEE CALCULATION SHEET | | | | | Application Number 10/822,481 | Filing Date 12 April 2004 |
|---|----------|--------|-----------------------|--------|---|------------------------------|
| Substitute for Form PTO-1360 (For use with Form PTO/S2/03) | | | | | Applicant(s) Debra L. Holte | |
| | | | | | • May be used for additional claims or amendments | |
| CLAIMS | AS FILED | | AFTER FIRST AMENDMENT | | AFTER SECOND AMENDMENT | |
| | Indep | Depend | Indep | Depend | Indep | Depend |
| 1 | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |
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| Total Indep | 2 | | 3 | | | |
| Total Depend | 23 | | 23 | | | |
| Total Claims | 25 | | 26 | | | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.16. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Debra L. Holte



Signature of person making deposit



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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 10/822,481 | 04/12/2004 | Debra L. Holte | HOLTEI | 3032 |
| 7590 | 03/24/2005 | | EXAMINER | |
| Debra L. Holte 861 South Steele Street Denver, CO 80209 | | | | NGUYEN, SON T |
| | | | | ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER |

3643
DATE MAILED: 03/24/2005

Sunday

Due Apr 1 25,
2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Paper No. _____

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

amendment document filed on 3/4/05 is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on June 30, 2003 (see 68 Fed. Reg. 38611, Jun. 30, 2003). In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required. Only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment document must be resubmitted (in its entirety), e.g., the entire "Amendments to the claims" section of applicant's amendment document must be re-submitted. 37 CFR 1.121(h).

THE FOLLOWING CHECKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT:

1. Amendments to the specification:

A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings.
 B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined.
 C. Other specification needs to be on separate page

2. Abstract:

A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFR 1.72.
 B. Other _____

3. Amendments to the drawings: _____

4. Amendments to the claims:

A. A complete listing of all of the claims is not present.
 B. The listing of claims does not include the text of all claims (including withdrawn claims).
 C. Each claim has not been provided with the proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status of each claim cannot be identified.
 D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.
 E. Other: Claims needs to be on separate page

further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 114 and the USPTO website at www.uspto.gov

he non-compliant amendment is a PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT, applicant is given ONE MONTH from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this ONE MONTH time limit is not extendable.

he non-compliant amendment is a reply to a NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION (including a submission for an RCE), and since the amendment appears to be a *bona fide* attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE MONTH from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

he amendment is a reply to a FINAL REJECTION, this form may be an attachment to an Advisory Action. The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection, and is not affected by the non-compliant nature of the amendment.

Ray L. Jones
Patent Examiner (LIE)

703-305-0234
Telephone No. _____